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John the Bailiff's LETTER TO Robin the Steward.

Friend Robin,

THOU know'ſt the certain Reaſons that oblig'd me to retire out of *Derbyſhire*; I am glad to hear our Miſtreſs's the Widows Affair go on ſo well: 'Tis ſaid thou haſt a good Stock upon the Farm again, yet I hear that ſome of the Creditors go without Money ſtill, and that many of the Servants have not receiv'd all their Wages; however they ſay there is nothing wanting about the Houſe, and the Teams come and go quietly from *Derby*-Market.

I writ laſt Poſt to my Lady's Attorney about the Bonds ſhe has put in Suit againſt me; I hope ſhe will be merciful in that Point, and accept of a ſmall Compoſition:

John the Bailiff's
LETTER
TO
Robin the Steward.

Friend Robin,

THOU knowst the certain Reasons that obliged me to retire out of Derbyshire; I am glad to hear our Mistress's the Widows Affair go on so well: 'Tis said thou hast a good Stock upon the Farm again, yet I hear that some of the Creditors go without their Money still, and that many of the Servants have not receiv'd all their Wages; however they say there is nothing writing about the House, and the Teams come and go quietly from Derby-Market.

I writ last Post to my Lady's Attorney about the Bonds she has put in Suit against me, I hope she will be merciful in that Point, and accept of a small Composition:

I know it would go a great way, if after all old Grudges, you would ſtand my Friend. Pray let my Lady know that the Air in this *Fenny-Country* does not agree with me, and that I very much deſire to return into my Native Country *Derbyſhire*. If *Harry*, my Lady's Clerk, would give me a Line, I ſhould take it very kindly; for I hear very ſeldom from my own Relations, and then they never mention one Word of News.

Since my Retirement into *Lincolnſhire*, I have found an Account about Marling the Brick-Fields, and have procnr'd ſome Certificates about Hiring the Teams for that Uſe. This I will ſend over againſt the Aſſizes, when the Tryal is to come on, unleſs the Lawyers agree to put it off for a longer time. Aſſure my Lady, that I converſe with very few in this Country, and tho' Sir *Charles Littleworth* has offer'd me to come into *Yorkſhire* to be his Bailiff, I have declin'd accepting of the ſame, leſt I ſhould give Umbrage to my Lady, and the reſt of my Adverſaries in *Derbyſhire*.

Pray let my Lady know, that I am willing to pay for the Sorrel-Horſe that was Loſt, and to be at all the Charges of repairing the Waggon that was Overthrown in the Croſs-Lane. And tho' I reckon it as part of my *Vails*, yet I will give up the Poundage I took of the Tennants the laſt Journey I made

made into *Cambridgeſhire*. I doubt not but my Succeſſour *Fames*, will tell you what a bad Market there is for Malt in thoſe Parts, at ſome Seaſons of the Year; and that I eou'd not at any time make much out of my Travelling Charges. *Margery* the Dairy-Maid is juſt come; and I thank my Lady and you for all Favours.

I am very Glad to hear the brown Cow is ſo near Calving, I was always againſt her going to the Parſons Bull, becauſe I thought the Breed was not large enough: The Calf is Suckled with two Cows Milk, and will fetch a very good Price in the Market.

I am ſorry to hear it is Suggeſted, as if *Jack Snugg* the Corporal, who barbarouſly Stab'd one of my Ladys Courtiers, is come over to me in *Lincolnſhire*, to conceal himſelf, as if I had been privy to the Deſign, I declare I have not ſeen him, and do utterly abhor ſo barbarous a Deſign.

Pray recommend me to my Ladys Favours and beleive me your Friend,

John the Bailiff.

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